

EC3090 – Econometrics -

Lab session 4

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Exercise c17.1 – Wooldridge, page 615

- 1) The variable *favwin* is a binary variable if the team favored by the Las Vegas point wins. A linear probability model to estimate the probability that the favored team wins is:
$$P(\text{favwin}=1 | \text{spread}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{spread}$$

Explain why, if the spread incorporates all relevant information, we expect $\beta_0 = 0.5$
- 2) Estimate the model by OLS. Test $H_0: \beta_0 = 0.5$ against a two-sided alternative. Use both the usual and the heteroskedasticity-robust standard errors.
- 3) Is spread statistically significant? What is the estimated probability that the favored team wins when *spread*=10?
- 4) Now, estimate a probit model for $P(\text{favwin}=1 | \text{spread})$. Interpret and test the null hypothesis that the intercept is zero.
- 5) Use the probit model to estimate the probability that the favored team wins when *spread*=10. Compare this with the LPM estimate from part 3)
- 6) Add the variable *favhome*, *fav25* and *und25* to the probit model and test joint significance of these variables. Interpret this result, focusing on the question of whether the spread incorporates all observable information prior to a game.

1. favscr	favored team's score
2. undscr	underdog's score
3. spread	Las Vegas spread
4. favhome	=1 if favored team at home
5. neutral	=1 if neutral site
6. fav25	=1 if favored team in top 25
7. und25	=1 if underdog in top 25
8. fregion	favorite's region of country
9. uregion	underdog's region of country
10. scrdiff	favscr - undscr
11. sprdcvr	=1 if spread covered
12. favwin	=1 if favored team wins